

Serial Number 10/642,626

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**AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing configuration information for a bridged virtual local area network (VLAN) within a communication network, comprising the steps of:

- a. presenting a graphical user interface (GUI) to an operator;
- b. receiving from the operator an identification of a node and of a physical port through the GUI;
- c. when the VLAN is not an existing VLAN, receiving a requested VLAN identifier (ID) from the operator through the GUI, and validating the requested VLAN ID received from the operator in step d by comparing the requested VLAN ID with VLAN IDs in a list of VLAN configurations for VLANs which are configured on the node;
- d. if the requested VLAN ID is valid, receiving a validated VLAN configuration from the operator through the GUI; and
- d.e. transmitting the validated VLAN configuration to the node.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving a validated VLAN configuration comprises receiving from the operator through the GUI, an identification of at least one virtual port belonging to a member set of the VLAN, said at least one virtual port being selected by the operator from a list of virtual ports in the set.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the step of receiving a validated VLAN configuration further comprises the steps of:

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- a. receiving, from the operator through the GUI, an identification of zero or more virtual ports belonging to a forbidden set of the VLAN;
- b. receiving, from the operator through the GUI, an identification of zero or more virtual ports belonging to an untagged set of the VLAN; and
- c. ensuring that the member set and the forbidden set have no virtual ports in common.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4-1 further comprising the steps of:

- a. determining from the existing configuration information on a number of VLANs currently configured on the physical port; and
- b. ensuring that configuration fo the bridged VLAN on the physical port would not violate a maximum limit of VLANs on the physical port.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising the further step of storing the valid configuration information at a network management system.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the node is an Asynchronous Transfer Mode node.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the bridged VLAN is in conformance with the 802.1q VLAN standard.

9. (Currently Amended) A system including at least one device capable of presenting a graphical user interface (GUI) to an operator, the at least one device comprising a processor for providing configuration information for a bridged virtual local area network (VLAN) within a communication network, comprising:

- a. instructions for presenting a said graphical user interface (GUI) to the operator;

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- b. instructions for receiving an identification of a node and of a physical port through the GUI;
  - c. instructions for receiving, when the VLAN is not an existing VLAN, a VLAN identifier (ID) from the operator through the GUI, and validating the requested VLAN ID received from the operator in step d by comparing the requested VLAN ID with VLAN IDs in a list of VLAN configurations for VLANs which are configured on the node;
  - d. instructions for receiving if the requested VLAN ID is valid, a validated VLAN configuration from the operator through the GUI; and
  - d.e. instructions for transmitting the validated VLAN configuration to the node.
10. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 9 wherein the instructions for receiving a validated VLAN configuration comprise instructions for receiving, from the operator through the GUI, an identification of at least one virtual port belonging to a member set of the VLAN, said at least one virtual port being selected by the operator from a list of virtual ports in the set.
11. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 9 wherein the instructions for receiving a validated VLAN configuration further comprise:
- a. instructions for receiving, from the operator through the GUI, an identification of zero or more virtual ports belonging to a forbidden set of the VLAN;
  - b. instructions for receiving, from the operator through the GUI, an identification of zero or more virtual ports belonging to an untagged set of the VLAN; and
  - c. instructions for ensuring that the member set and the forbidden set have no virtual ports in common.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 12 further comprising:

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- a. instructions for determining from the existing configuration information on a number of VLANs currently configured on the physical port; and
  - b. instructions for ensuring that configuration fo the bridged VLAN on the physical port would not violate a maximum limit of VLANs on the physical port.
14. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 9 further comprising instructions for storing the valid configuration information at a network management system.
15. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 9 wherein the node is an Asynchronous Transfer Mode node.
16. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 9 wherein the bridged VLAN is in conformance with the 802.1q VLAN standard.
17. (New) The method of claim 1 comprising the further steps of querying the node for the list of VLAN configurations which are currently configured on the node and storing the list.
18. (New) The system of claim 9 further comprising instructions for querying the node for the list of VLAN configurations which are currently configured on the node and storing the list.